



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

MILL CREEK WWTP ODOR CONTROL DISPERSION MODEL

RFP#2016-006

Direct questions or information requests related to this RFP to:
msd.procurement@cincinnati-oh.gov

SCHEDULE

Release Date	MAY 18, 2016
Pre-submittal Meeting	N/A
RFP Questions / Comments Deadline	June 1, 2016, 1:30 p.m. (Cincinnati, Ohio Time)
SUBMITTAL DEADLINE /TIME	June 10, 2016, 1:30 p.m. (Cincinnati, Ohio Time)
Evaluation Dates	June 13 - June 24, 2016
Negotiation and Award	By or before July 8, 2016

**ALL SUBMITTAL DELIVERIES ARE TO BE SENT TO: SEWERS PROCUREMENT
(SEE RFP SECTION 1.9 FOR SPECIFIC LOCATIONS)**

The functional address of Sewers Procurement is:
Two Centennial Plaza, 805 Central Avenue, Suite 234, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-1947

NOTE: Consult the information about this offer on the City of Cincinnati "Open Data" web site at <https://data.cincinnati-oh.gov>. Rules and registration information about the MSDGC Small Business Enterprise Program can be found at <http://www.msdbg.org>.

Offeror may register as a City vendor online at www.cincinnati-oh.gov/vss.

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1 REQUEST

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The City of Cincinnati, through its Department of Sewers (the “City”), as the sole management agency for the operation and maintenance of the sewer system on behalf of the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (“MSDGC”) is issuing this Request for proposals (hereinafter “RFP”), pursuant to the provisions of applicable Ohio law and MSDGC policy, from parties (hereinafter “Offeror”). Offeror shall provide the City with assistance for the purpose of completing the activities associated with the Scope of Services, below.

1.2 GENERAL BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

MSDGC provides wastewater collection and treatment for various municipal and unincorporated populations of Hamilton County, which has over 800,000 residents, as well as services to portions of Butler, Clermont, and Warren Counties. MSDGC's service area covers more than 400 square miles. Over 200,000 separate sewer connections tie into MSDGC's 3,000+ miles of sanitary and combined sewers.

The Board of County Commissioners of Hamilton County, Ohio (the “Board”) created MSDGC in 1968. MSDGC is operated under a 50-year contractual agreement with the City. The agreement consolidated the City sewerage services (its own and contractual services provided to 20+ other Hamilton County political subdivisions) with those of Hamilton County's Sewer District No. 1. Under the agreement, the City provides exclusive management of the sewer district's services, per the requirements as outlined in Chapter 6117 of the Revised Code of Ohio, while the Board funds its operating and capital budgets, sets rate structures, and determines its rules and regulations.

1.3 PROJECT BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

In 2015, MSD identified improvements to enhance its Mill Creek WWTP Odor Control Program to better characterize and implement short and long term needs. As part of the enhancement program, the Odor Control Team identified and implemented operational controls that resulted in optimization and reduction of odor emission - that effort continues to be successful as the culture around odor control operations and troubleshooting improves. Working with a community advisory panel, MSD developed a goal of 0% emissions off site and conducted a comprehensive odor evaluation - this effort has resulted in quantifying odor emission sources from the WWTP from many sampling events between August and November 2015.

An Odor Dispersion Model has been identified to be developed as a tool for MSD to evaluate and consider odor sources and control into the future. The Odor Dispersion Model shall be developed with the baseline data collected in 2015 and supplemented with additional data as necessary. The odor dispersion model will assist in the selection of future odor control mitigation strategies or capital improvements of the entire Mill Creek WWTP.

MSD anticipates using the Odor Dispersion Model to evaluate existing operations and future improvements. The model will be developed and run as part of future evaluations, including supporting future BCEs, to provide data that could be used to support or enhance a project to maximize the mitigation of odors, upon completion of the model and QA/QC. It is anticipated that MSD will rely on expert services to assist in running scenarios with the model. However, long term, it is anticipated that this expertise will be brought in house to help facilitate the long term enhancement and achievement of the goal of zero emissions offsite. Model files will be turned over to MSD at completion of the project with training, operation and maintenance tools.

1.4 SCOPE OF SERVICES

Services Overview

The following are the tasks/deliverables to be performed:

1. **Gather Model Input Data** - Model input data will be gathered including existing odor sources, plant layout, weather data, receptor locations, and odor control criteria. Data from 2015 sampling efforts will be used for the baseline odor modeling. A technical memorandum will be developed to summarize the model input data and odor control criteria.
2. **Develop Baseline Odor Dispersion Model** – Dispersion model will be developed with initial sampling data and available data gathered during Task 100. Additional sampling needs will be identified from the baseline dispersion model development. A memorandum will be developed to summarize the baseline model setup and initial results from the model.
3. **Odor Sampling** – Additional odor sampling will be performed to supplement data gathered during 2015 sampling effort.
4. **Update Dispersion Model and Evaluate Additional Improvements** – Dispersion model will be updated with additional data and used to evaluate odor impacts of existing facilities/controls and proposed improvements at the Mill Creek WWTP. A technical memorandum will be prepared to summarize task activities / findings and future recommendations.

The anticipated term of the contract resulting from this RFP is one year.

See Exhibit 1 (separate attachment) for a more detailed draft scope of work.

Note: All finished products and documents shall be the sole property of MSDGC.

1.5 QUALIFICATIONS

The Qualifications established for this RFP are provided in Section 1.11 of this document.

1.6 TIMETABLE

Milestones for the Process are:

Release Date	MAY 18, 2016
Pre-submittal Meeting	N/A
RFP Questions / Comments Deadline	June 1, 2016, 1:30 p.m. (Cincinnati, Ohio Time)
SUBMITTAL DEADLINE /TIME	June 10, 2016, 1:30 p.m. (Cincinnati, Ohio Time)
Evaluation Dates	June 13 – June 24, 2016
Negotiation and Award	By or before July 8, 2016

1.7 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS CONCERNING THE RFP

The City will **only** entertain written questions or comments concerning this RFP by the deadline provided above. These **must** be sent electronically to:

msd.procurement@cincinnati-oh.gov.

1.8 PRE-SUBMITTAL MEETING

The City may conduct a pre-submittal meeting for this Project. If a pre-submittal meeting is scheduled, the date, time and location of the pre-submittal meeting will either be identified on the project's web page or will be identified in an addendum. A pre-submittal meeting, if one is to be held, **is not** a mandatory requirement.

1.9 RFP SUBMISSIONS AND LOCATION

- One fully executed, printed and bound "Original" submittal and four "Copies", and an electronic copy of the submittal in PDF format (on CD, DVD, or flashdrive) shall be received by the City at the locations, time, and date specified herein. The original shall be clearly marked.
- Bound submittal copies shall be delivered to:

***Sewers Procurement
Two Centennial Plaza
805 Central Avenue, Suite 234
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-1947***

- Offeror bears **SOLE RESPONSIBILITY** to deliver the printed and bound submittal copies to the City by the date and by the time specified in this RFP.
- All bound and printed submittals **MUST** be submitted in a sealed container. The following notations should be legibly inscribed on the outside of the sealed container (fill-in yellow shaded area):

Offeror Name
RFP #2016-006
MILL CREEK WWTP ODOR CONTROL DISPERSION MODEL
JUNE 10, 2016, 1:30 p.m. (Cincinnati, Ohio Time).

Late submittals will not be accepted.

- Any proposals submitted past the date and time outlined in this RFP **WILL** be rendered as “non-responsive” by the City.
- ***If requested in writing***, submittals may be withdrawn at any time up to the RFP deadline date and time, at which time Offeror’s submittals will be considered firm. Such requests should be addressed to msd.procurement@cincinnati-oh.gov.

1.10 COMPETITION INTENDED

Competition shall be generated to the maximum extent practicable, including opportunities for small business enterprises through the MSDGC Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program. This project shall have a 10% SBE inclusion goal.

1.11 SELECTION PROCESS AND AWARD CRITERIA

The City will evaluate submittals to achieve the most advantageous outcome based on Offeror proposals.

The City intends to enter into a contract for the subject matter covered under this RFP. Selection of an Offeror or Offerors and subsequent award of a contract will comply with applicable Ohio law, and MSDGC policies.

1.11.1 The City has established the following responsiveness criteria as the basis for evaluating an Offeror’s submittal to this RFP. If an Offeror’s submittal does not meet the criteria listed below, it may be rendered as “non-responsive” by the City.

Responsiveness of Submittals
OVERALL CRITERIA
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Was submittal received by MSDGC by specified date and time?• Did Offeror submit 1 original printed offer and 4 copies, and an electronic copy of the submittal in PDF format (on CD, DVD, or flashdrive)?

Responsiveness of Submittals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Was submittal properly signed on the Affidavit of Accuracy and Signature Page and was the original notarized Affidavit and appropriate documentation of signatory authorization submitted?
SECTION 2 REQUIREMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Did Offeror submit Qualifications Questionnaire Attachment 0 with the submittal?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Did Offeror submit Qualifications Questionnaire Attachment 1 with the submittal?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Did Offeror submit Qualifications Questionnaire Attachment 2 with the submittal?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Did Offeror submit resumes of key personnel?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Did Offeror adhere to the two-page limit per resume?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Did Offeror submit organizational chart for key personnel performing professional services?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Did Offeror submit Qualifications Questionnaire Attachment 3 with the submittal?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Did Offeror list no more than six similar projects completed in the past five years?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Did Offeror adhere to the two-page limit per project for each project description summary?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Did Offeror submit Qualifications Questionnaire Attachment 4 with the submittal?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Did Offeror adhere to the four-page limit for narrative?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Did Offeror provide a completed MSD 172 form?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Did Offeror submit Qualifications Questionnaire Attachment 5 with the submittal?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Did Offeror submit an Affidavit of Accuracy and Signature Page with the submittal?

1.11.2 The City will review and rank all Offeror's submittals that are received on or before the deadline. The City will then select the submittal that is most advantageous.

1.11.3 The following evaluation factors set forth below will be taken into consideration for the determination of which submittals are most advantageous:

Evaluation Criteria	Max. Weight
Overall Qualifications of the Firm	25%
Price Proposal	20%
Qualifications of Key Personnel	15%
Similar Projects	20%
Small Business Enterprise Utilization	20%
Total	100%

1.11.4 Overall qualifications of the firm

1.11.4.1 Under this section, the City will evaluate the Offeror's experience in the development of odor dispersion models, comprehensive odor evaluations of wastewater treatment facilities, and its' ability to provide the required services described herein. The City will also evaluate the Offeror's ability to meet budgets, completion dates, stay within scope, and produce complete and understandable submittal documents.

Additionally the Offeror shall provide examples and reference letters of a minimum of 2 odor dispersion models, using AERMOD, completed in the last 5 years.

1.11.5 Qualifications of key personnel

1.11.5.1 Under this section, the City will evaluate the Offeror's personnel; especially the training, education, and experience of the employees who would be assigned to perform the services. The Offeror shall also identify the specialized skills and disciplines that will be required to complete the work, specifically as it relates to the development of dispersion models for odor emissions.

1.11.6 Similar projects

1.11.6.1 Under this section, the City will evaluate the Offeror's past work involving similar projects, for MSDGC or other sewer utilities, similar to the scope of services contained herein. Additionally the Offeror shall provide examples and reference letters of a minimum of 2 odor dispersion models, using AERMOD, completed in the last 5 years.

1.11.7 Small Business Enterprise utilization

1.11.7.1 For this proposal, the Consultant shall provide the firm's philosophy and approach for the development and growth of small and diverse firms, which has been used by the firm on past projects. Additionally, the Consultant shall provide a project-specific Business Development Plan to address the firm's proposed utilization of SBE firms registered with the MSDGC SBE Program and certified by any of MSD's recognized agencies. At a minimum, this section shall include the following:

1. The Applicant firm's philosophy and approach for the utilization, development and growth of small and diverse firms. Describe the firm's past inclusion performance and accomplishments. The completed MSD 172 Annual S/M/D/WBE Utilization form should complement and be consistent with the firm's philosophy and approach for working with small and diverse firms.
2. A list of all proposed firms for the project including SBE firms registered with the MSDGC SBE Program and certified by any of MSD's recognized agencies, including a brief scope of work assignments and percentage of participation should be included on the Consultant/Subconsultant Utilization Plan for RFQ and RFP form. To be considered for SBE status the SBE firm must be certified (by MSD's recognized agencies) in the NAICS code(s) for the services they will provide on the project.
3. The Consultant shall provide a project-specific Business Development Plan to describe the proposed means to use the certified SBE firms listed in #2 in a meaningful and significant manner and, as a minimum, shall include the following:
 - a. Why you selected this firm for the assignment, the extent to which the proposed assignments will help grow the capacity and capability of the small business.

- b. Identification of the individual(s) responsible for implementing the project-specific Business Development Plan and their experience coaching others (formal and/or informal).
- c. If you have selected firms you have not worked with in the past, describe the plan for integrating the firm into your project and your approach to fortifying this relationship. Again, one tenet of the SBE Program is to provide opportunities for certified SBEs that have little or no work history on MSDGC projects.

If the Consultant is a registered MSDGC SBE and certified by one of MSDGC recognized certifying agencies, this should be stated throughout the RFQ. To be considered for certified SBE status the Consultant must be certified in the NAICS code(s) for the RFQ/P scope of services. At a minimum, this section should include the following:

- 1. The Consultant firm's philosophy and approach for working with small and diverse firms. Describe the firm's past inclusion performance and accomplishments. This can include work as a prime and/or sub-consultant. The Consultant's response may include a list of the firm's discretionary spend with S/D/M/WBE firms on previous projects. The completed MSD 172 Annual S/D/M/WBE Utilization form should complement and be consistent with the firm's philosophy and approach for working with small and diverse firms.
- 2. A list of all proposed firms for the project including SBE firms registered with the MSDGC SBE Program and certified by the City of Cincinnati, including a brief scope of work assignments, and percentage of participation should be included on the Consultant/Sub-consultant Utilization Plan for RFQ and RFP form. To be considered for certified SBE status, the SBE firm must be certified in the NAICS code(s) for the services they will provide on the project.
- 3. The Consultant shall provide the proposed means to use the SBE firms listed in #2 in a meaningful and significant manner.
- 4. If you have selected firms you have not worked with in the past, describe the plan for integrating the firm into your project and your approach to fortifying this relationship. Again, one tenet of the SBE Program is to provide opportunities for SBEs that have little or no work history on MSDGC projects.

1.11.8 Each submittal will be considered objectively.

1.11.9 Submittals will be evaluated in accordance with the applicable Ohio law and MSDGC policies.

1.12 PROCESS FOR ENTERING INTO AGREEMENT

The City may award a contract to the successful Offeror(s) considering the total requirements for this procurement and what will be determined to be the most advantageous offer to the City.

Each Offeror whose submittal is found to be the most advantageous will be offered the opportunity to enter into a Professional Agreement (PA) with the City.

All work resulting from this RFP will be based upon a PA. While work scopes and budgets may vary, no work resulting from this RFP and resulting PA will deviate from the general scope of services as outlined below to include other services not contemplated under the RFP.

The scope, terms and conditions of that PA shall be in substantial conformance with the terms, conditions and specifications described in this RFP and with the submittal by the Offeror(s) determined to be the most advantageous.

Any PA that results from the RFP process would be entered into by the City of Cincinnati through its Department of Sewers (the "City"), as the sole management agency for the operation and maintenance of the sewer system on behalf of the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSDGC) and a single legal entity that has been properly formed at the time the Offeror delivers the submittal to the City (e.g., corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, limited liability company, limited liability partnership).

The successful Offeror should be prepared to begin contract negotiations upon notification of the Award. If the Offeror is not able to begin contract negotiations, the City may disqualify that Offeror.

The City reserves the right to negotiate the PA to include any portion or portions of the services covered by this RFP.

1.13 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The City assumes no obligation to accept or take action on any submittal.

Receipt of a contract through this procurement process is not a guarantee of work.

The City reserves the right to ask for additional information and clarification from or about any or all of the Offerors. The City may require selected Offerors to make an oral presentation of their submittals.

The City reserves the right to check all references furnished and consider responses received in determining the award.

The City reserves the right to perform investigations as may be deemed necessary by the City to assure that competent persons will be and are utilized in the performance of the Agreement and to verify the accuracy of the contents of submittals.

All submittals are subject to the disclosure provisions of the Ohio Public Records provisions of Ohio Revised Code Chapter 149.43.

The City publishes information on the "OpenData" internet web site <https://data.cincinnati-oh.gov/Fiscal-Sustainability-Strategic-Investment/Procurement-Opportunities-and-Contract-Awards/pid3-z56k>. Information will also be published on the internet web site <https://vss.cincinnati-oh.gov/webapp/VSSPROD/AltSelfService> (for registered vendors).

The City strongly encourages interested Offerors to frequently monitor these websites for any RFQ updates and/or addenda.

Information concerning the MSDGC Small Business Enterprise Program may be found at http://msdgc.org/about_msd/capital_improvement_program/small_business_enterprise_program/index.html.

The City further reserves the right to:

1. Reject any or all submittals, to waive any technicalities, immaterial irregularities, or minor informalities in the submittal, to request clarifications or modifications during evaluation, and to select the Offeror whose submittal, in the City's judgment, is most advantageous.
2. Eliminate any Offeror who submits an incomplete or inadequate submittal or is not responsive to the requirements of this RFP.
3. Supplement, amend, or otherwise modify the RFP through the issuance of Addenda to all Offerors, and to supplement the RFP with information items, prior to the submission date of the submittal. Addenda issued to this RFP may expand or cancel any portion or all Work described in this RFP.
4. Clarify the information provided as part of the submittal, including but not limited to holding discussions or meetings with Offerors, requesting additional information from Offerors to support the information included in the submittal, and requesting clarified submittals.
5. Cancel this RFP in whole or in part with or without substitution of another RFP.
6. Take any action affecting the RFP process or the project that are permissible under Ohio law.

1.14 CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION

Each Offeror awarded a contract shall be a registrant under Vendor Self Service (VSS) at time of award. Go to <http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/vss/> to register.

1.15 VENDORS INELIGIBLE TO CONTRACT OR SUBCONTRACT WITH THE CITY

1.15.1 The City maintains a list of Vendors Debarred from Contracting or Subcontracting with the City, which may be accessed at: <http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/purchasing> or may be furnished in other form upon request. The City will not contract with any firm or person on the list. It is the Contractor's responsibility to verify that each subcontractor it proposes to use is an eligible firm or person. The City will not approve a subcontractor whose name appears on the list.

1.15.2 The City shall neither accept nor be liable for any increase in costs, or other expenses, delay, loss, or subsequent ineligibility to contract with the City, incurred by a contractor as a result of the City rejecting any proposed person, firm, partner, principal, affiliate, subcontractor or supplier that is debarred or suspended after the submission of a bid, proposal, or other communication leading to a contract, but before the approval or award of the contract.

1.16 CHANGES AND ADDENDA TO RFP DOCUMENTS

Information on all changes or addenda issued in relation to this offer will be posted on the "Open Data" website at <https://data.cincinnati-oh.gov> and will be on file with Sewers Procurement. It shall be the Offeror's responsibility to make the inquiry as to changes and addenda issued. All such changes or addenda shall become part of the RFP and all Offerors shall be responsible for taking the contents of such changes or addenda into consideration when preparing and submitting the Submittal.

1.17 MSDGC SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM

This RFP is subject to the MSDGC Small Business Enterprise Program. The Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSDGC) is committed to increase the participation of small businesses in all aspects of MSDGC contracting. That includes contracting with SBEs directly or indirectly through contracting, subcontracting and/or procurement activities. There are many qualified SBE firms that have performed work with MSDGC, but just as many qualified SBE firms that have not performed work with MSDGC. A tenet of the SBE Program is economic inclusion which includes providing opportunities to firms with little or no work history on MSDGC projects.

The Consultant must demonstrate an understanding of MSDGC's SBE Program tenets and a commitment to using certified SBE firms on MSDGC work where possible and feasible. Firms submitted for SBE consideration shall be registered with the MSDGC Small Business Enterprise Program or City of Cincinnati and certified by the City of Cincinnati in the NAICS codes for the services they will provide on the project. MSDGC recognizes the following certifying agencies economic inclusion programs: City of Cincinnati SBE Program, U.S. Small Business Administration 8(a) Program, State of Ohio Encouraging Diversity Growth & Equity (EDGE) Program and the City of Dayton's Procurement Enhancement Program (PEP).

1.18 NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

MSD is committed to a policy of non-discrimination. Through its submittal, the Offeror agrees that:

- (A) That, in the hiring of employees for the performance of work under the contract or any subcontract, no contractor, subcontractor, or any person acting on a contractor's or subcontractor's behalf, by reason of race, creed, sex, disability or military status as defined in section 4112.01 of the Revised Code, or color, shall discriminate against any citizen of the state in the employment of labor or workers who is qualified and available to perform the work to which the employment relates;
- (B) That no contractor, subcontractor, or any person on a contractor's or subcontractor's behalf, in any manner, shall discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under the contract on account of race, creed, sex, disability or military status as defined in section 4112.01 of the Revised Code, or color.

1.19 MSDGC EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

Prior to the award of the contract, the selected Offeror must complete and return a MSDGC Form 147; the form must be signed by a person authorized to bind the Offeror. More information on the MSDGC Equal Employment Opportunity Program can be found at the following website:

http://msdgc.org/about_msd/capital_improvement_program/construction_contracts/contract_compliance_program/eo/index.html.

(The remainder of this page is left intentionally blank.)

2 CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Refer to the **draft** Professional Agreement available for download on the OpenData website at <https://data.cincinnati-oh.gov/Fiscal-Sustainability-Strategic-Investment/Procurement-Opportunities-and-Contract-Awards/pid3-z56k>.

These draft contract terms and conditions will apply to this RFP once a vendor selection is made. The City reserves the right to amend, augment, change, enhance, or delete sections of the **draft** contract prior to its final execution with a selected vendor.

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3 SUBMITTALS

3.1 AUTHORIZATION OF SUBMITTAL

The Offeror's proposal must be signed by a person who has legal authority to contractually bind the Offeror.

3.2 CONTENT AND FORM OF SUBMITTAL; QUALIFICATIONS QUESTIONNAIRE

Offerors shall complete the *Qualifications Questionnaire* (QQ) and its AFFIDAVIT OF ACCURACY & SIGNATURE PAGE and provide attachments as outlined therein.

The information presented in the Offeror's submittal shall be clear, complete, and concise.

In addition to the instructions contained in the QQ, the following are also required for the composition (format) of any offer to this RFP:

- The Offeror's submittal **SHALL** include all of the elements outlined in the QQ. Deviation from compliance with the QQ may render the submittal as "non-responsive" as determined by the City.
- **No verbal submittals are acceptable to the City.**
- Offerors **MAY NOT** use the MSDGC logo, City of Cincinnati logo or seal, or Hamilton County seal on their submittal package – **EXCEPT** when such logo or seal appears on forms or documents provided by the City for use by Offerors.
- The Offeror **MUST** submit one printed and bound original and four (4) copies, and an electronic copy of the submittal in PDF format (on CD, DVD, or flashdrive). Deviation from compliance with the number of copies required may render the submittal as "non-responsive" as determined by the City.
- The Offeror's submittal **MUST** include an original signed and notarized affidavit. Deviation from compliance with this requirement may render the submittal as "non-responsive" as determined by the City.
- **NO ADVERTISING LANGUAGE, BROCHURES, PAMPHLETS, OR OTHER BUSINESS SERVICES COMMUNICATIONS OR BUSINESS MARKETING MATERIALS SHALL SUBSTITUTE FOR OR FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS AS OUTLINED IN THE QQ. NEITHER SHALL SUCH BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS OR MARKETING MATERIALS BE ALLOWED TO BE SUBMITTED AS A COMPLEMENT TO THE QQ.**

Any inclusion of such materials as outlined above, or, in the determination of the city that meet the intent of such materials as outlined above, may render the offeror's submittal as "non-responsive" as determined by the city.

The QQ is available as a Microsoft Word document SEPARATE FROM THIS RFP and available on the OpenData website at <https://data.cincinnati-oh.gov/Fiscal-Sustainability-Strategic-Investment/Procurement-Opportunities-and-Contract-Awards/pid3-z56k>.

3.3 RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CITY

The City assumes no liability for any costs incurred in preparing or submitting any response to the RFP.

3.4 EXCEPTIONS

Any exceptions to the draft Professional Agreement, the MSDGC Equal Employment Opportunity Program, or to any other portion of this RFP must be made in writing and included with the Offeror's submittal. Exceptions may be determined to not be in the best interest of the City and may be a factor used in submittal evaluation and ranking. Any exceptions taken to the MSDGC Small Business Enterprise Program provisions of this RFP may make the Offeror's submittal non-responsive.

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